



Bishop Stopford School

Week Ending: 21 November 2025

NEWSLETTER



Events all week
Govilon 7G & 7S

Monday 24 November
Year 11 Collective Worship

Tuesday 25 November
Year 10 Collective Worship
Year 7 House Games

Wednesday 26 November
Year 12 Collective Worship
Year 9 House Games

Thursday 27 November
Year 7 Collective Worship
Christmas Concert 7pm

Friday 28 November
Year 8 Collective Worship
Year 12 Reports issued
Year 12 Bishop Lecture

Next week:
Week A

Assembly Theme:
Compassion

Govilon

#BestOfBishop

As this Newsletter is published, 7G and S will be preparing to leave 'Big Pit' coal mine museum, after a cold but hopefully exhilarating week in Bannau Brycheiniog - the Brecon Beacons National Park.

After months of meticulous planning and preparation, our eight Year 7 forms have had a memorable experience in the safe hands of the centre instructors and our staff. Some students may have visited Govilon with their primary schools, but for many, this may be the first time they have ever stayed away from home. Comfortable accommodation, passionate staff and freshly prepared meals offer a warm welcome to each and every child who visits.

The annual trip to Govilon provides an invaluable bonding experience for students as they get to know each other in their formative days with us. Team building and personal challenges will enable them to deal more effectively with the day-to-day challenges both individually and as a group, cementing firm friendships along the way.

After a hearty breakfast to start the day, students have enjoyed a packed itinerary of activities ranging from gorge walking, caving, river walking, rock climbing, bushcraft and canoeing, and on the very wet days, indoor climbing. There really is something for everyone to enjoy. It is time to refuel in the evening with a great, homemade dinner prepared by the wonderful staff who cater for all our students' dietary requirements, and then there's just time to squeeze in a bit of fun before bedtime. Everyone participates in activities such as ten-pin bowling, games & quizzes and Mrs Rogers-Hussey even introduced the retro joy of a Beetle Drive!

Student behaviour is exemplary on our Govilon visits, and we always look forward to hearing how our students and staff have made these trips another enormous success.

Thank you to all our staff and Govilon Activity Centre who work hard to make this an unforgettable experience for our Year 7 students. And thank you too, to all parents for entrusting us with their children for this trip: it's been a pleasure to enjoy getting to know them a little bit better in South Wales!

Miss Duffy





**Bishop Gabriel from Uganda
visiting Christian Union**



We were delighted to host Bishop Gabriel in school last week. **Beatrice Cooper**, Year 9, sums up her response: *When being visited by Bishop Gabriel, one thing that really stood out to me was how his strong Christian faith seemed to drive everything he did. His passion for helping people was clearly rooted in his beliefs, and the way he spoke about his work felt inspiring. Seeing his faith in action left a lasting impression on me. It also made me feel profoundly grateful for the comforts and opportunities I enjoy here and reminded me how fortunate I am compared with the children he described. Hearing about their daily hardships - walking miles for a lesson, lacking basic support from family, and then not being able to access a proper education - highlights the stark contrast between their reality and my own. I was so grateful for this eye-opening experience.*

Mrs Hutchinson

Core Values in Action

The following students receive CViA awards this week:

Isla Dow (8C) was part of the Colour Party in full school uniform representing Bishop Stopford School at St Mary's School, Grendon and read out the names of the fallen.

Jacob Johnson (7D) was very courageous when his dad got his arm trapped. He called the emergency services and waited at the front of their house to wave them down.

Mairi Noble (7S) was inspired by our Crochet Club and has been busy learning and developing her skills to crochet little plushies. She has a stall at the Festive Fair on Thursday 27th at St Peter and St Paul's Church to help raise money for the church, if anyone would like to attend.

If you know of a student who may be eligible for a Core Values in Action award, email newsletter@bishopstopford.com

Mrs Peach

Friday Prayers

If you would like your child to attend prayers at the local mosque on Fridays, please ensure you have completed the consent form: [Friday prayers at the Kettering Mosque - Parental Permission November 2025 – Fill out form](#)

Please note that students must return in time for the start of their afternoon lessons at 13:15.

Mrs Smith



Safe Space – Operation Sceptre

This week we've had the privilege of having our PCSO, Steve Coles, delivering assemblies about Operation Sceptre, the police response to knife crime. It has been acutely relevant in light of recent events on the train to Cambridge and in Birmingham.

PCSO Coles' assemblies have highlighted the difference between what is portrayed on social media, and what happens in reality. Although more than 70% of 11 – 17yr olds say that they have seen violence on social media in the last year, research with the same age group reveals that fewer than 1% have ever, or would ever, carry a weapon.

PCSO Coles shared the negative impact that this can have, increasing stress and generating a sense of fear about going out, even in safe communities. While unprovoked and unexpected attacks do happen, they are still very infrequent. However our perception can be distorted because of the media attention.

PCSO Coles also shared some key advice for staying safe which we would appreciate you talking about at home, too. He advises:

- Never carry a knife or item which could be seen as a weapon;
- Delete, scroll past and report violent content on social media;
- Avoid interacting with anyone that you think may have a weapon. Instead, move as far away as you can from that individual;
- Never record an act of violence. This can be considered a 'joint enterprise' with the person recording encouraging the action. Instead, use your phone to report the crime.

If you have any concerns about your child, or another student at our school, please contact their tutor or Head of Year. You can also email safeguarding@bishopstopford.com.

Mrs Smith

Sixth Form Applications

Applications for Bishop Stopford School Sixth Form are now open and will close on Friday 30th January 2025.

Year 11 students have received their login details via their school email. External applicants can create an account and apply using the following link: [Bishop Stopford School](#)
For further information about admissions, please scan the QR code below. You are also welcome to contact us at SixthFormAdmissions@bishopstopford.com

We look forward to receiving your application.



Miss Whitehead

Economics Essay Competition

This term, our Year 13 Economics students were invited to take part in an essay writing competition. The competition was an opportunity for students to apply all their Micro and Macro learning to a real-world context not covered in class. Students attended two lunch time sessions in a row, were presented with the essay title on day one, using this time to plan. On the second day, they wrote their essay. Those students who took part were able to bring fabulous insight to their applied arguments and judging was difficult. The essay title was 'Discuss the economic effects of the wedding of Jeff Bezos and Lauren Sanchez in Venice in June 2025'.

Students were able to discuss the benefits to the city of the extra spending in Venice, the environmental stress on the city, along with an analysis of the impact of the event for local incomes.

Congratulations to:
Winner Dylan Ransom
Runners Up Gurveer Deol and Olieur Rahman



Mrs Donlevy

Commonwealth Essay Competition

Congratulations!

We are thrilled to announce that Liberty Cobbold (9D) and Ankita Kanoor (9W) have been awarded Bronze certificates for this year's national Queen's Commonwealth Essay writing competition! The competition is an extremely prestigious event and invites young people from across the Commonwealth to share their ideas and creativity on themes that matter globally.

The competition this year included two categories:

- **Senior (14–18 years)** – with topics exploring the power of literature and the life journey of plants in communities.
- **Junior (Under 14 years)** – with themes such as equal access to education and reimagining folklore.

We are immensely proud of Liberty and Ankita for embracing this opportunity to express themselves and engage with the Commonwealth's values of democracy, equality, and human rights.



Mrs Fletton

STEM Club

Last half term, our Year 7 STEM Club students were busy designing, building, and racing their own paper Formula 1 cars. Working in teams, they combined creativity, problem-solving, and engineering skills to produce practical outcomes which they then tested using a compressed air launcher. After weeks of hard work and experimentation, Team Sparrows emerged as the overall winners! Well done to all the students for their fantastic effort and enthusiasm throughout the project.



Mr Sidgwick

Woodard Christmas Card Competition

Well done to all students who submitted an entry to the Woodard schools card competition. Whilst we didn't win an overall prize, two students from our school were selected to have their designs celebrated on the Woodard website. [Christmas Card Competition Gallery - Independent, Academy and Maintained Education | Woodard Schools](#)

Congratulations to Charlotte Barrow (9C) and Leah Dabo (8Y): this is a great achievement!

Mrs Baker

Children in Need donations

Thank you to students and staff who donated last Friday. We collectively raised a wonderful £2,126.62 for Children in Need.

Miss Reynolds

Drama Stars



The Drama Department celebrates the success of the following students in Drama lessons. They have demonstrated excellent commitment to Drama and worked hard, upholding the school values in their approach.

Year 7

Orlaith Corkerry
Ezekiel Ngwerume
Saanvi Patel
Noah Steel
Sirr David Agyei Nyarko
Anastasia Musto
Panchikaa Rajhbabu

Mrs Fraser

Year 8

Albie Dickerson
Zara Duncan
Joseph Murrell
Eleanor Powell
Isatherese Prince
Henry Lukehurst
Angelica Perslow-Sefiani
Henry Lukehurst
Sargun Sharma
Aaron Thomas
Nicholas Wyke

Year 9

Daanveer Basra
Liberty Cobbold
Maria Papatnasiu
Akua Boateng
Amber Mann
Chloe Mayes

GCSE

Alana Hollwey
Ben Horne
Emmanuella Adu
Emilie Mitchell

A Level

Ellis Szoltysek



Sports Round Up 10/11/25 – 20/11/25

Hockey

Boys:

U13 Boys played in a tight contest v NSB narrowly winning 1-0.

U15 Boys played Northampton School and NSB winning one comfortably and missing out 4-3 in the other, whilst the U18 Boys won a real battle of a game v QMGS from Walsall 2-1.

Girls

U13 Girls played Campion and won.

U15 Girls played Campion. Although they lost, it was an opportunity for players to gain invaluable match experience due to regulars playing in the U16 Football at the same time. Both squads also played this week in a County Development Tournament against other county schools on a rather damp & cold night.

Netball

Congratulations to the U16 squad who came 2nd at the County Championships meaning they will now move forward to the Regional Finals later this year.

Football

Congratulations to the U16 Girls with a convincing win in the County Cup v Campion and progress to the next round.

U12 Boys played in the District 7-Aside tournament. They won 4 matches and lost 1, coming 2nd overall.

Rugby

The U12s (Year 7) had their first taste of competitive rugby in a friendly tournament playing both Wellingborough and Bedford Greenacre Schools. They were commended on their play considering their lack of experience.

The U13s kicked on their season, showing great promise from the outset. Returning players and a few new recruits have made all the difference to the team as they have played some very impressive rugby. They narrowly missed out v Wellingborough, but had a win and a loss in a Triangular Tournament.

The U15's (Year 10) played well putting together a comprehensive performance to comfortable win v CBA and will now progress to the next round of the County Cup .

Basketball

The U18 Boys played Latimer in a local friendly in a game. Although rather one-sided, it was played in fantastic spirit due the many local friendships.

The U13 Girls played in the first District Tournament with a mixed bag of results. They look forward to the next couple of rounds over the following weeks.

The U15 Boys started their District campaign v Latimer resulting in an opening victory in a tight affair.

Cross Country

Finally congratulations to all the runners who competed in the District Cross Country Championships on Monday. Particular mentions go to students who finished in the top 10 in their respective age groups. We await confirmation for those that will be selected to represent the District in the County Championships in January.

U13 Girls: 2nd Senudi Wanshanatham, 5th Karina Patel

U15 Boys: 7th Thomas Beeby, 9th Callum Johnson

U17 Boys: 4th Matthew Kemp, 5th Jude Drury, 9th Matt Clarke

U17 Girls: 1st Darcey Taplin, 5th Eleanor Jackson, 6th Lowri Robinson, 7th Martha Burchell

U19 Boys: 1st Dylan Ransom, 5th Seb Persaud

U19 Girls: 1st Charlotte Jackson

Mr Young



English Bible Quincentenary Exhibition Invitation

The Bible in English – a 500 Year Anniversary! As mentioned in our Newsletter last week, we are delighted to be hosting an exhibition celebrating William Tyndale's translation of the Bible into English. The exhibition has already been used extensively in Leicestershire and this anniversary will go on to be celebrated at the British Library in London.

Several parents have asked if they can visit the exhibition and so we have made the following opportunity available. We would love to see you!

Mrs Hutchinson

**You are kindly invited to visit our exhibition
(All Welcome)**

Bishop Stopford Chapel

Monday 24th November

Drop in from 3.45pm to 5.00pm



Non-Uniform day

A non-uniform day will be held on Friday 19th December, with Christmas Jumpers being the theme. A voluntary donation of £1.00 per student is suggested and we will be sending a link via Parentpay.

Christmas Lunch

Christmas lunch will be served in the Olive Grove on Wednesday 11th December (Years 7–9) and Thursday 12th December (Years 10–13).

Parents need to pay using ParentPay and complete the form sent via Edulink for students' menu choices by **Wednesday 3rd December**.



Miss Curchin





Important Dates

27 NOV
Christmas Concert

28 NOV
Y12 Reports issued

1 DEC
*Carol Service
Ss Peter & Paul
Church*

3 - 12 DEC
Y11 Mock Exams

3 DEC
*Year 8 Progress
Review*

5 DEC
Y10 Reports issued

10 DEC
*Y7 - 9 Christmas
Dinner*

11 DEC
*Y10 - 13 Christmas
Dinner*

16 DEC
*Celebration of
Achievement*

19 DEC
*School Closes for
Christmas Break
at 12:30pm*

Bishop Stopford School
faith | justice | responsibility | truth | compassion

Celebration of Achievement Invitation

**For students who sat GCSEs & A Levels at
Bishop Stopford School in summer 2025**

Celebration of Achievement

Tuesday 16 December 2025
6:00pm – 7:30pm in the Sports Hall
Refreshments served from 5:15pm

A celebration of success and presentation of GCSE and A Level certificates.

Parents/carers and students warmly welcome.

**Invitations have been sent to parents/carers.
Book tickets by 3pm on Tuesday 9 December.**



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We currently have the following exciting opportunities for outstanding and ambitious individuals:

- PR and Commercial Partnerships Lead
- HR Officer and Office Manager
- Curriculum Support Assistant
- Exam invigilator

The successful candidates will work alongside colleagues, senior staff and governors and will contribute to unlocking students' unique potential.

We hope you are excited by the opportunity to work with us. We look forward to hearing from you.

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Cucina

WEEK 2

Week Commencing: 03/11/2025 24/11/2025 15/12/2025 05/01/2026 26/01/2026
 16/02/2026 09/03/2026 30/03/2026 20/04/2026

CLASSIC HOT & HEARTY

CLASSIC MAIN MEALS

VEGETARIAN MAIN MEALS

MONDAY

Pork & Beef Sausage, Served with Mash with Onion Gravy

TUESDAY

Beef Lasagne with Homemade Garlic Bread & Garden Peas

WEDNESDAY

Hand Carved Roast British Turkey, Crisp Roasties, Seasonal Vegetables, & House Gravy

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Chicken, Served with Fried Rice

FRIDAY

Chip Shop "Fryday" Fish, Pizza or Fishcake & Chips with Peas & Tartare Sauce

MONDAY

Vegan Sausage Casserole with Gravy (VE)

TUESDAY

No Waste Cauliflower Cheese Pasta Bake (V)

WEDNESDAY

Cheese, Onion & Leek Pie, Served with Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy (V)

THURSDAY

Sweet & Sour Tofu with Fried Rice (V)

FRIDAY

Jamaican Squash Pasty with Chips & Peas (V)

DESSERTS

MONDAY

Chocolate Sponge with Chocolate Sauce

TUESDAY

Pear & Ginger Crumble with Cinnamon Custard

WEDNESDAY

Jam Sponge with Custard

THURSDAY

Baked Churros

FRIDAY

Hot Chocolate Rocky Road

Fruit and Jelly Pots Available Daily

HOMEMADE SOUP & FRESHLY BAKED BREAD Available Daily

JACKET POTATOES Topped with a Choice of: Cheese, Tuna or Beans Available Daily

Cucina



MADE YOUR WAY!

**CHOOSE IT!
ADD IT!
TOP IT!**

Switch up your flavours with our street food-inspired range, available **Tuesday to Thursday**. With weekly rotating choices, there's always something tasty.

Choose a base, add protein, and top it your way!

Visit the restaurant to check out what's on offer each week

NATURally

MONDAY

Fork Friendly Falafel Kebab (VE)

TUESDAY

Vegan Singapore Noodles (VE)

WEDNESDAY

Singapore Fried Rice (VE)

THURSDAY

The Big Plant Burger (VE)

FRIDAY

Garlic & Chilli Noodles (VE)

TRATTORIA

MONDAY

Tomato & Basil Pasta

TUESDAY

Pasta in a Cheese Sauce

WEDNESDAY

Margherita or Pepperoni Pizza

THURSDAY

Creamy Pesto Pasta

FRIDAY

Margherita Pizza

